

Rebalancing Workgroup MFP and BIP
February 7, 2017

Introductions: In Person and Phone

Balancing Incentive Program (BIP) Updates

- I. Maryland Access Point Website
 - 1. MDoA is seeking volunteers to review the language on the **Plan tab** of the Maryland Access Point website (www.marylandaccesspoint.info). If you are interested in reviewing the draft language, please email Eram Abbasi eram.abbasi@maryland.gov
 - 2. There are 4 main tabs (PLAN, SEARCH, CONNECT, and EXPLORE). The PLAN tab holds very little information as to why an individual should plan. MDoA is asking for individuals to look at the current language that has been drafted and to suggest edits.
- II. Waiver Registry Screen
 - a. Letters have been sent to 9,000 people on the Waiver Registry and we are working on mailing the next 2,000.
 - b. Between MAP staff and the Schaefer Center, 6,842 individuals on the Waiver Registry have received the Level One Screen.
 - c. 362 out of 2,030 nursing home residents who were on the Waiver Registry have been referred for Options Counseling
 - d. The waiver registry has been reduced to 24,467 individuals.
 - e. Anyone wanting to maintain their place on the registry should call the MAP 1-844-627-5465 or Ernest Le 410-767-5215
 - f. Graph was shown regarding info from Level 1 screens (provided as an attachment)
- III. BIP Updates
 - A. Hospital to Home Initiative:
 - 1. To create partnerships with MAP, LHDs and Hospitals to help MA participants' transition home and avoid new hospitalizations and LTC stays.
 - 2. Staff members from MDoA and DHMH are currently reviewing applications that have been submitted.
 - 3. There have been 8 counties have received awards.
 - B. We are modifying the FY 17 MOUs with BHA and MDoA to support more programs.
 - C. We are working on FY 18 MOUs with MDoA and BHA.
 - D. We are seeking opportunities to support more training around PASSR, Brain Injury, Behavioral Health, Person Centered Planning, Executive Leadership, and Grant Writing.
 - E. We want to use the rest of the BIP period to encourage connections between the MAPs and local hospitals, LHDs, and CSAs.

Money Follows the Person (MFP) Updates

I. MFP Updates

A. Submission Dates

- a. MFP Action Plan was submitted on February 3, 2017. MFP did not hit the 85% benchmarks for CY 2014 and CY 2015. The purpose of the action plan is a proactive means to improve the number of transitions, or for purposes of meeting the transition benchmark. It includes information on current benchmarks, updates and progress toward that benchmark, barriers/causes for not meeting the benchmark, and timeframes for addressing each identified issue.
- b. MFP CMS Budget is due February 10, 2017
- c. MFP Semi Annual Report is due February 28, 2017

B. Staffing Update

- a. Associate Project Director
Interviews were held during the week of January 23rd and 30th, 2017. Second interviews will be held on Thursday, February 9, 2017.
- b. Contractual Position: Transitions Coordinator
Interviews were held during the week of December 19, 2016. The hiring process is pending with HR.

II. Housing Updates

A. DHMH Activities

- a. Rebecca Raggio and Maxine Arena are providing overviews of the affordable housing programs (Section 811 PRA, MFP Bridge Subsidy, and Weinberg Apartments) to support planning agencies and coordinators for community services and Housing 101 presentations. Contact Rebecca at rebecca.raggio@maryland.gov or call 410-767-4948 to schedule training.
 1. Maxine and Rebecca provide updates on the Section 811 program to Harford County AAA on 1/4/17, Beatrice Loving Heart on 1/11/17, Upper Shore Aging on 1/12/17, Prince George's County AAA on 1/13/17, and MMARS on 1/31/17.
 2. Housing 101 was provided to Baltimore City AAA on 1/4/17 and to Service Coordination, Inc. on 1/31/17.
- b. Rebecca and Maxine have been providing technical assistance to support planners who are assisting individual's referred to the MFP Bridge Subsidy program and Section 811 PRA. Bridge Subsidy Overviews were provided to support planners at MMARS on 12/21/17 and Beatrice Loving Heart on 1/11/17.

B. Maryland Partnership for Affordable Housing (MPAH)

- a. The Advisory Group (made up of representatives from DHMH, DHCD, MDOD, DDA, BHA, and the CIL network) continues to meet regularly to discuss development and implementation of housing programs such as Weinberg Units, 811 PRA, and MFP Bridge.
- b. The Case Management Subcommittee continues to have property-specific monthly calls for case managers assisting Section 811 applicants and tenants. The subcommittee meets quarterly in-person to provide housing program

updates and is open to representatives from cross-disability case management agencies. **Next meeting: 4/13/17 1:30-3:30 pm at MCDD, 7000 Tudsbury Rd, Windsor Mill, MD**

- c. HUD Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Demonstration
 - i. Maryland received two funding awards from HUD for Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Demonstration to provide project-based rental assistance to people with disabilities who are low-income, Medicaid recipients between the ages of 18 and 61.
 - 1. Effective December 12, 2016 “Community Options waiver participants currently residing in an OHCQ licensed assisted living facility moving to independent renting,” were added to the priority 3 definition.
 - 2. Identified projects:
 - a. Harford County- Riverwoods at Tollgate- 13 units- **Leased**
 - b. Anne Arundel County- Berger Square- 8 units – **Leased**
 - c. Baltimore City- Warwick Apartments- 12 units
 - d. Baltimore County-
 - i. Red Run Station- 11 units
 - ii. Preserve at Red Run- 13 units
 - iii. Merritt Station- 11 units
 - e. Frederick City
 - i. Sinclair Way- 11 units- Under construction, **Referring Now!**
 - ii. 520 N. Market St.- 5 units- under construction
 - f. Montgomery County - Woodfield Commons- 13 units
 - g. Prince George’s County
 - i. Bladensburg Commons- 15 units- Under construction, **Referring Now!**
 - ii. Brinkley Hill- 5 units - Under construction, **Referring Now!**
 - h. Talbot County - Galloway Meadows- 4 units
 - i. Wicomico County- Homes at Johnson Pond- 4 units
- d. Weinberg Apartments
 - i. Brinkley Hill in Prince George’s County is currently under construction and will have 3 2-bedroom Weinberg units. **Referring Now!**
- e. MFP Bridge Subsidy
 - i. The MFP Bridge Subsidy registry is open and referrals are underway. MFP Bridge Subsidy will be offered throughout Maryland for MFP eligible individuals transitioning from qualified institutions or individuals in the Brain Injury Waiver who are transitioning from ALUs. Eligible applicants must be 18 and older with a maximum household income of \$15,000. Effective March 1, 2017 the maximum annual income limit will

increase to \$19,000. The reason for the change is to increase referrals to rural counties.

- ii. The Bridge Subsidy will be tenant-based, similar to the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program. The Bridge Subsidy will provide rental assistance for up to 3 years. Individuals will transition to HCVs after that period with the exception of Montgomery County, which will offer project-based units.
- iii. Individuals will pay 30% of their income for rent and utilities.
- iv. The MFP Bridge Subsidy is gradually rolling out to participating jurisdictions:
 1. The program is open in Carroll County (5 commitments), Prince George's County (5 commitments), DHCD (18 commitments, Western MD and Eastern Shore), Baltimore City (15 commitments), Harford County (5 commitments), Anne Arundel County (7 commitments), Hagerstown (5 commitments), and St. Mary's County (5 commitments), and Easton (5 commitments), Howard County (5 commitments), Baltimore County (10 commitments)
 2. Subsidies are still available for following jurisdictions, referrals are needed: DHCD (Western MD and Eastern Shore), Hagerstown, St. Mary's County, and Easton.
 3. Referrals TBA for Montgomery (10 project-based units).

III. Transitions

- a. Since the beginning of the program in 2008, MFP has transitioned a total of **2700** individuals (as of Jan. 31, 2017).
- b. MFP reached 87% of its CY 2016 Benchmark. As of December 31, 2016, **262** individuals transitioned to the community
- c. Benchmark for CY 2017(January- December) is 341 transitions. In order to reach the 85% threshold, we have to transition 290 individuals.
- d. Provided spreadsheet of 2016 vs. 2017
- e. Ways MFP has increased transitions: started providing information to nursing facility liaisons, giving overviews of the MFP program to nursing facility social workers and providing education on making options counseling referrals. MFP is scheduled to meet with nursing facility social workers in March. MFP staff have provided 1-on-1 technical assistance, quality and compliance tracking, housing updates, etc. to supports planners.

General Department Updates

I. PASRR update

A. Reform Workgroup

1. Workgroup continues to meet monthly; next meeting 2/7/17.

2. Level 1 screening tool has been revised several times. Input received from DDA and BHA regarding PASRR disability and identifiers for a Level 2 screening (potential for Specialized Services in LTC).
 3. 2/7/17 workgroup to finalize Level 1 draft and discuss online process.
 4. Continued discussion regarding Level 1.5 review & algorithm.
- B. Survey: Specialized Services
1. Surveys were sent to NFs regarding behavioral health services currently being used or are available to residents. Most commonly completed by Administrators, Social Service Depts of Director of Nursing.
 2. Most common services reported as being utilized in NFs: individual counseling by LCSW or Psychologist, medication management by Psych Nurse Practitioner, therapeutic group activities. A few NFs reported alcohol/drug assessment, recovery programs/meetings, methadone maintenance and Certified Older Adult Peer Specialist.
 3. Several barriers to accessing services and treatment including insurance limitations, billing issues, transportation, small network or limited availability of providers. High prevalence of responses revealed residents often decline intervention, treatment and/or services.
 4. NFs placed much emphasis for the need for Older Adult Peer Specialist, chronic disease management programs, alcohol/drug assessment/treatment services, more intensive individualized medication management and therapy and assistive technology/specialty equipment. One common need was transition and housing assistance.
- II. SPA Solicitation update
- A. As of January 1, 2017, Service Coordination, Inc. has been selected as a Supports Planning Agency. Service Coordination, Inc. is currently in the training process and is not accepting new referrals. Information and brochures for Service Coordination, Inc. will be provided once training has ended. Service Coordination, Inc. will provide supports planning statewide, except for the Eastern Shore.
 - B. The Supports Planning Agencies include the 19 Area Agencies on Aging, The Coordinating Center, MMARS, Bay Area Center for Independent Living (BACIL), Beatrice Loving Heart, and Independence Now.

*The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 4, 2017** from 12-2 in room L-3.*